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ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A projection type image display apparatus capable of achieving accurate focusing of a projection optical system using an output from a photoreception sensor, is disclosed. The projection type image display apparatus includes a projection optical system and performs focusing control of the projection optical system based on an output signal from photoreception sensor. The photoreception sensor receives light from the projection surface. The optical axis of the projection optical system is shifted with respect to a reference axis. The reference axis leads from the center of an original image formed on an image forming element to the center of the projected image. The photoreception sensor receives light from a detection area which is proximate to and includes the position of the optical axis of the projection optical system on the projection surface.